

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (cancelled)

2. (currently amended) A scroll fluid machine comprising:

multi-stage compression section in which the fluid compressed in a the preceding stage compression section is further compressed in a the succeeding stage compression section;

a lap groove formed spiraling from the vicinity of a the discharge port of the compressed fluid of a the final stage compression space of the preceding stage compression section to a the fluid take-in side of an the initial stage compression space of the succeeding stage compression section, in the tip of the lap being formed a tip seal grove to receive a seal element, and a rand being formed between the discharge port ~~at the compression end part~~ of said preceding stage compression section and the suction port of the succeeding stage compression section;

an intermediate seal element received in the intermediate groove formed on the surface of said rand which faces the end plate of the mating scroll for preventing the leakage of the compressed fluid from said succeeding stage compression section to said discharge port opening side of said preceding stage compression section, said seal element including,

a first seal element which extends spirally from the fluid take-in side of said preceding stage compression section side to the final discharge port side of said succeeding stage compression section and partitions said discharge port

opening and said suction port opening at said rand surface in the course of its extension, and

a second seal element, an end of which contacts the side face of said first seal element at the side opposite to said discharge port opening in the vicinity of said discharge port opening and which extends from the vicinity of said discharge port opening to the vicinity of said discharge port opening, surrounding said succeeding stage compression section to contact the side face of said first seal element at the side opposite to said suction port opening.

3-4. (cancelled)